(d) the steps taken to ensure regular supplies to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There has been a shortfall in the supplies from U.S.S.R.

(c) and (d). The shortfall is being made good by making additional imports from alternate sources to the extent requred so that regular supplies to consumers are maintained.

[*Translation*]

Resumption of Closed Mica Mines

1201. SHRI BHUVNESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the setting up of MITCO and taking over of mica industry by the Government, a large number of mica mines have been closed down and thousands of labourers engaged in mica mines and mica dealers have been rendered jobless;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government for restarting these mica mines and provide jobs to the jobless labourers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Jamrani Dam Project

1202. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to abandon the Jamrani Dam Project in view of the recent earthquake; and

(b) if not, the time by which the project is likely to be completed alongwith the details of progress made theron so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACAHRAN SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir. The work on the dam has not started. The recommendations of Department of Earthquake Engineering, University of Roorkee have been obtained for guidance in formulation of detailed designs of the dam to make it earthquake resistent.

(b) Jamrani Dam Project is envisaged under two stages. In Stage-I, construction of a barrage near Kathgodam in District Nainital along with the modernisation of irrigation system have almost been completed. Under Stage-II, a dam of 131 metre height is proposed upstream, of the barrage on the Gola river. In May 1989, the Advisory Committee has cleared the project techno-economically subject to its approval from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. An estimated expenditure of Rs. 16.97 crores has been incurred against the estimated cost of Rs. 144.84 crores (1987 price level) The project is scheduled to apill over to Ninth Plan.

Issues Raised at Commonwealth Heads of Government Meet (CHOGM) at Harare

1203. SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations made by the Common-wealth Finance Ministers at Kualalampur were taken up by the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government meet (CHOGM) at Harare;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the results achieved in this regard;

(c) whether any report was prepared

and presented by 'Appraisal Group' consisting of the Heads of Govrnment of ten member countries during the summit;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the stand taken by India thereon;

(e) whather Pakistan raised Kashmir issue during the meet; and

(f) if so, what was the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Common-health Finance Ministers meeting in Kuala Lumpur had recommended to CHOGM that steps should be taken to encourage consideration at a high political level of a number of developmental issues, identified in a Commonwealth Experts Group report entitled 'Change for the Better'. CHOGM had decided upon the steps to promote further consideration of the report and discussion of the issues raised therein.

(c) and (d). A High Level Appraisal Group of ten countries, at the Heads of Government level, deliberated mainly on the Future role of the Commonwealth in the 1990s and beyond. The Group identified the pricrities for the Commonwealth in the future and these are reflected in the Harare Defclaration, which was adopted by CHOGM. India was member of the Group and participated actively in the deliberations.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Raw Jute Production

1204. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the production of raw jute during 1991-92; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target and to make Indian jute competitive in the global market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The production target of raw jute for the year 1991-92 has been fixed at 91 lakh bales of 180 kg. each.

(b) In order to achieve the production target, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Special Jute Development Programme in 50 selected Districts of 8 majoute/mesta/sunnhemp growing states of Andhra Pradesh Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Under the scheme Government of India is providing financial assistance on production and distribution of certified/quality seeds of jute, mesta and sunnhemp, plant protection measures, demonstrations of improved technology, construcfion of retting tanks, distribution of fungal culture, etc. Expenditure on various development items are met in full by Government of India.

In order to make Indian Jute competitive in the international market, Govt. have taken several measures including grant of REP @ 30% on exports, extension External Market Assistance @ 10% on FOB value of diversified jute products meant for the export market, implementation of Export Price Stabilisation Fund Scheme to share lossess, if any, on export of jute goods against high volume global contracts, allowing import of specified items of jute machinery at concessional rate of customs duty, implementation of modernisation programme to improve productivity and efficiency etc.

New coal making policy

1205. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose